



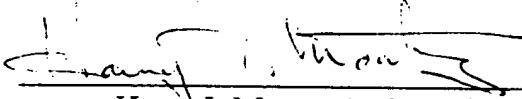
**BEFORE THE OFFICE OF ENROLLMENT AND DISCIPLINE  
UNITED STATE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**LIMITED RECOGNITION UNDER 37 CFR § 10.9(b)**

Cornelis J. Wheeler is hereby given limited recognition under 37 CFR § 10.9(b) as an employee of Townsend & Townsend & Crew to prepare and prosecute patent applications wherein the patent applicant is the client of Townsend & Townsend & Crew, and the attorney or agent of record in the applications is a registered practitioner who is a member of Townsend & Townsend & Crew. This limited recognition shall expire on the date appearing below, or when whichever of the following events first occurs prior to the date appearing below: (i) Cornelis J. Wheeler ceases to lawfully reside in the United States, (ii) Cornelis J. Wheeler's employment with Townsend & Townsend & Crew ceases or is terminated, or (iii) Cornelis J. Wheeler ceases to remain or reside in the United States on an H-1 visa.

This document constitutes proof of such recognition. The original of this document is on file in the Office of Enrollment and Discipline of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

**Expires: December 15, 2000**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Harry I. Moatz, Acting Director  
Office of Enrollment and Discipline

Amendment

3731

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP  
 Two Embarcadero Center, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
 San Francisco, California 94111-3834  
 (415) 576-0200

Attorney Docket No. 15508-002510US

In re application of: D. BRUCE MODESITT et al.

Application No.: 09/651,344

Filed: August 29, 2000

Group Art Unit: unassigned

For: ARTICULATING SUTURING DEVICE AND METHOD

**THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS**  
**Washington, D.C. 20231**

Sir:

Transmitted herewith are the following documents:

1. Second Preliminary Amendment; and
2. Postcard

If any extension of time is needed, then this response should be considered a petition therefor.

The filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

	(Col. 1)	(Col. 2)	(Col. 3)
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR
TOTAL	* 39	MINUS	** 20 = 19
INDEP. * 4 MINUS *** 3 = 1			
[ ] FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEP. CLAIM			

SMALL ENTITY		OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY	
RATE	ADDIT. FEE	RATE	ADDIT. FEE
x \$9.00 =		x \$18.00 =	\$342.00
x \$40.00 =		x \$80.00 =	\$80.00
+ \$135.00 =		+ \$270.00 =	
TOTAL ADDIT. FEE		TOTAL	\$422.00

\* If the entry in Col. 1 is less than the entry in Col. 2, write "0" in Col. 3.

\*\* If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, write "20" in this space.

\*\*\* If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, then write "3" in this space. The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found from the equivalent box in Col. 1 of a prior amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

[ ] No fee is due.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 20-1430 as follows:

Claims fee \$ \$422.00  
 Any additional fees associated with this paper or during the pendency of this application.

2 extra copies of this sheet are enclosed.

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

C. James Wheeley,  
*Granted Limited Recognition under 37 CFR §10.9(b)*  
*as set out in the attached authorization*

PA 3108556 v1

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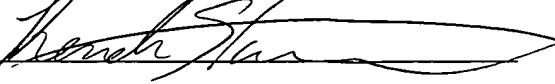
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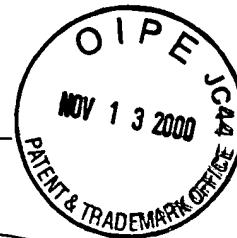
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

On November 7, 2000

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: 

PATENT  
Attorney Docket No.: 15508-002510US



Prep by  
#3  
GMA 11/18/00  
Tucker

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

D. BRUCE MODESITT et al.

Application No.: 09/651,344

Filed: August 29, 2000

For: ARTICULATING SUTURING  
DEVICE AND METHOD

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: Unassigned

**SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Box Patent Application  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 1-2, 12-14, 40 and 42-43; and add new claims 48-84. Note that claims 26-27 remain unchanged, but are reproduced for the examiners convenience and reference.

- |   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| 1-2.  | CANCELED.            |
| 3-11.                                       | PREVIOUSLY CANCELED. |
| 12-14.                                      | CANCELED.            |
| 11/20/2000 THARGROU 00000003 201430 0552354 | PREVIOUSLY CANCELED. |

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02 FC:104

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